Chief, Fiscal Division

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20 September 1951

Office of the General Counsel

Consent to Refund of Taxes

- 1. Reference is made to the attached "Consent to Credit or Refund" forms sent to this Agency by the Addressograph-Multigraph Corporation. Via buck-slip, you have requested our recommendation concerning the course of action you should follow in connection with this problem.
- 2. Generally, this matter involves a claim by Addressograph that its customers have been required to pay an excessive amount of taxes on its products. At the present time, the Eureau of Internal Revenue has taken the position that this claim is not allowable. If Addressograph decides to press for a decision, two or three years may pass before any refund can be made.
- J. It is our understanding that some Government agencies have been signing the Addressograph forms, while others have not. This information has been obtained from Hr. William Fox, Manufacturers' Excise Tax Unit, Bureau of Internal Revenue.
- 4. Our advice is that the attached forms be retained by CIA permanently, for the following reasons:
  - a. The Government (as a whole) cannot possibly gain if we sign the forms, because any refund would merely go from another Government department to CIA.
  - b. A certain amount of man-hours would be consumed if we signed the form, since any refund would involve a long period of waiting, paper work, accounting of funds, etc.
  - c. He harm can be done if we merely file the forms, because the matter will be dropped as to CIA. Addressograph can contest the amount of tax paid by us only if we sign the forms. Addressograph may, of course, contest the amount of tax paid by its other customers, if those customers sign the preper forms.

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Release 2007/01/16 CIA-RDP57-00384R001200010120-6 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP DATE ENITIALS IQ OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNTY STATINTL 18 Sept. 2 3 STATINTL 5 FROM INITIALS DATE CHIEF, FISCAL DIV. 11 SEPTI 2 3 INFORMATION SIGNATURE APPROVAL DIRECT REPLY ACTION RETURN DISPATCH COMMENT PREPARATION OF REPLY RECOMMENDATION " CONCURRENCE > STATINTL RESTRICTED UNCLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL

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